

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A2  
--Dust which passes through the filter 112 is removed by a so-called cleaning operation in which the ink contained in the grooves 102 and the ink chamber 106 is absorbed through the nozzle apertures 111. This cleaning operation, however, cannot completely remove the dust. The head from which the dust has not been removed must be disposed of.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A3  
--First, the structure of the head chip 11 will be described. As shown in Figs. 3A and 3B, a plurality of channels or grooves 17 are formed in parallel in a piezo-ceramic plate 16 of the head chip 11, and the grooves 17 are separated by side walls 18. On end portion of each groove 17 extends up to one end face of the piezo-ceramic plate 16, whereas the other end portion of each groove 17 does not extend up to the other end face of the piezo-ceramic plate 16 and gradually decreases in depth. The grooves 17 are formed in the piezo-ceramic plate 16 by a disc-shaped dice cutter or the like. The shallow portions of the grooves 17 are unnecessary, but they are inevitably formed due to the shape of the dice cutter.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 2,  
with the following rewritten paragraph:

04  
--The passage forming member 12 now will be described. As shown in Figs. 4 and 5, in the substantially central area of the passage forming member 12 in the longitudinal direction, there is provided an ink supply passage 26 that constitutes a part of an ink passage, which connects an ink storage means (not illustrated) for storing ink in an ink tank or the like to the ink chamber 20. In the respective regions in proximity to both ends of the passage forming member 12 in the longitudinal direction thereof, there are provided ink discharge passages or communicating passages 27 and 28 that connect the ink chamber 20 to the outside so as to discharge the ink from the ink chamber 20 to the outside.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 20  
with the following rewritten paragraph:

05  
Contd  
--On the other hand, according to this embodiment, a check valve 31 is provided in each of the communication passages 27 and 28 formed in the regions corresponding to both ends of the ink chamber 20 in the longitudinal direction. The check valve 31 permits only a flow from the ink chamber 20 to the outside so that the ink in the ink chamber 20 can be discharged to the outside through the communication passage 27 and 28 without being exposed to the air. Although described later in further detail, the unwanted substances included in